

- (b) the number of NGOs run by the family members of IAS and other officers;
- (c) the names of NGOs which are run by OBCs, SCs and Minorities;
- (d) the grant provided to them during last three years; and
- (e) the number of NGOs involved in irregularities in the grants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) are not registered by the Ministry.

- (b) and (c) No such data is maintained in the Ministry.
- (d) and (e) Do not arise.

#### **Facilities for physically handicapped**

‡4564. SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH:  
SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a law relating to the construction of ramps at public places and Government offices for the convenience of the aged and the differently-abled persons is already in existence;
- (b) if so, the action taken by Government to ensure its implementation;
- (c) whether ramps have been created all over such places; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) to (d) Section 46 of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 stipulates that the appropriate Governments and the local authorities shall, within the limits of their economic capacity and development, provide for ramps and other barrier free facilities in public buildings.

Appropriate Government for States is State Government. Accordingly, State Governments/Union Territory Administrations have been requested to provide for barrier free environment in public buildings. Similarly, Central Ministries have also been requested to make their office buildings and buildings of Attached and Subordinate offices accessible to persons with disabilities.

Grant-in-aid is also released *inter-alia* for construction of ramps and other accessible features in public buildings for persons with disabilities under the scheme for Implementation of the Persons with Disabilities Act.

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‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The Delhi Division of Ministry of Urban Development had notified the amended Building Bye-Laws to ensure that the public buildings, which were erected in Delhi provided barrier free environment to Persons with Disabilities. The guidelines of these Building Bye-laws were circulated to all the States and Union Territories for incorporation in their municipal building Bye-laws. 22 States have amended their Bye-laws.

As per the available information, ramps and other accessible feature have been provided in a number of Universities, Railway Stations, Airports, Hospitals, and other public buildings for convenience of the aged and the persons with disabilities. Accessible features are provided in a phase manner as per the provisions of the Persons with Disabilities Act.

#### **Definition of senior citizen**

4565. SHRI VIJAYKUMAR RUPANI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is a vast difference between the definition of senior citizen in different departments these namely being 58 years, 60 years, and 62 years;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefore; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government for similarity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) to (c) As per the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007, a "Senior Citizen" means any person being a citizen of India, who has attained the age of sixty years or above.

However, for the purpose of providing benefits under various schemes for older persons, the age limit for deciding eligibility varies.

#### **Scholarship for persons with disabilities**

4566. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the total expenditure of the Government on schemes for the differently-abled persons and details thereof;
- (b) the total number of scholarships offered under the National Scholarship for Persons with Disabilities for the past three years;
- (c) the number of disability-wise scholarship uptake for the National Scholarship for Persons with Disabilities for the past three years;
- (d) whether Government plans to increase the number of scholarship offered in the coming year and details thereof; and
- (e) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) An amount of Rs. 197.36 crores have been incurred on various